

Graph 1 shows concentrations of reactants and products in the reaction mixture in a process according to the present invention.

Graph 2 shows concentrations of reactants and products in the reaction mixture in a process outside of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION.

Page 12, top of the page, please delete the heading and replace it with the following heading:

CLAIMS.

Page 13, top of the page, please delete the heading.

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Amended) A batch process for preparation of ampicillin comprising subjecting 6-aminopenicillanic acid (6-APA) to an enzymatic acylation reaction with the aid of a phenylglycine derivative, with the total concentration of the 6-APA present in the reaction mixture, plus ampicillin, being greater than 250 mM, the concentration of 6-APA in solution being kept lower than 300 mM and the molar ratio of acylating agent to 6-APA employed, which molar ratio is defined as the total quantity of added phenylglycine derivative divided by the total quantity of added 6-APA, expressed in moles, being less than 2.5.
2. (Amended) Process according to Claim 1, wherein the concentration of the 6-APA plus ampicillin present in the reaction mixture is greater than 300 mM.
3. (Amended) Process according to any one of Claims 1 or 2, wherein the concentration of 6-APA in solution is kept lower than 250 mM.
4. (Amended) Process according to Claim 1, wherein the molar ratio of the total acylating agent employed to 6-APA is less than 2.0.

5. (Amended) Process according to Claim 1, wherein the 6-APA and/or the phenylglycine derivative is metered in partially in the course of the enzymatic acylation reaction.
6. (Amended) Process according to Claim 5, wherein the phenylglycine derivative is metered in as a salt of D-phenylglycine amide and an acid.
7. (Amended) Process according to Claim 6, wherein phenylglycine derivative is metered in the form of a solution of D-phenylglycine amide $1/2 \text{ H}_2\text{SO}_4$ in water.
8. (Amended) Process according to Claim 5, wherein the metering of phenylglycine derivative is controlled by means of pH measurement.
9. (Amended) Process according to Claim 1, wherein the pH of the reaction mixture is lowered as soon as near to maximum conversion is achieved.
10. (Amended) Process according to Claim 1, wherein the temperature of the reaction mixture is lowered as soon as near maximum conversion is achieved.